

Message Text

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TAGS: SHUM
SUBJECT: WEO MEETING

REF: GENEVA 13630

1. GENEVA WEO S ATTENDED DUTCH TREAT LUNCHEON,
SEPTEMBER 8, ARRANGED BY FRG MISOFF VON TRESKOW. PUR-
POSE OF THE MEETING WAS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON:

1. THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL
DISCRIMINATION;
2. THE THIRTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE SUB-COMMISSION ON
PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINOR-
ITIES;
3. THE NGO-CONFERENCE ON APARTHEID;
4. THE FORTHCOMING GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED
NATIONS.

2. ON THE WORLD CONFERENCE ITEM - THERE WAS A
REHASH AND CONFIRMATION OF ISSUES DISCUSSED IN REFTTEL.
DE JONG (NETHERLANDS) REPORTED RUMOR THAT SYG OF THE
WORLD CONFERENCE (NARASIMAHN) PLANS TO GET CHANGES IN
THE DRAFT DECLARATION SO THAT IT WILL BE ADOPTED BY
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CONSENSUS IN THE THIRD COMMITTEE.

3. REFERRING TO THE THIRD COMMITTEE, UK REP (SNOXELL)
SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN
DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM 73 ON THE DECADE. OTHER MEM-
BERS INDICATED NO WEO STRATEGY HAD BEEN PROPOSED FOR DEAL-
ING WITH THE DECADE ITEM WHEN IT IS CONSIDERED IN THE

THIRD COMMITTEE.

4. AT ONE POINT VON TRESKOW ASKED PARTICIPANTS TO COMMENT ON THE WORLD CONFERENCE PRESS COVERAGE IN THEIR COUNTRIES. IN SOME CASES, IT WAS REPORTED THAT NEWSPAPER STRIKE AND BANK HOLIDAYS PRECLUDED NEWS COVERAGE OF THE CONFERENCE AND THE WESTERN WALK-OUT. IN THOSE INSTANCES WHERE THE WALK-OUT HAD BEEN REPORTED ARTICLES WERE STRAIGHT NEWS STORIES WITHOUT ANY EDITORIALIZING.

5. MISOFF INTRODUCED DISCUSSION ON THE SUB-COMMISSION, NOTING FIRST THAT IT WAS STILL TOO EARLY TO JUDGE THE COMPETENCE AND LEANINGS OF THE NEW S-C EXPERTS. ONLY FERRERO COSTA, PERU, AT THIS TIME, APPEARS ABLE TO UNDERSTAND AND ANALYZE THE ISSUES BEFORE THE GROUP. AT THE OTHER END OF THE SPECTRUM WALEED SADI, JORDAN, HAS MISUNDERSTOOD MOST OF THE CRITICAL ISSUES. MISOFF ALSO MENTIONED WORK OF THE EXPERTS IN PRODUCING THE DRAFT BODY OF PRINCIPLES ON DETENTION, WHICH WEOS AGREED WAS ONE OF THE BEST DOCUMENTS TO COME OUT OF THE SUB-COMMISSION. INTEREST WAS EXPRESSED IN THE TWO MAJOR ITEMS WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERED SEPTEMBER 11 AND 12 RESPECTIVELY: COMMUNICATIONS AND CAMBODIA. WEOS ALSO DISCUSSED BRIEFLY THE INCREASED NUMBER OF OBSERVER STATES AT THE SUB-COMMISSION SESSION. THERE WAS NO EXPLANATION FOR THIS SUDDEN INTEREST ON THE PART OF SUCH STATES AS MONGOLIA OR THE EE COUNTRIES.

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6. THE NGO CONFERENCE ON APARTHEID WAS BRIEFLY DISCUSSED. FEW OF THE WEOS HAD REGISTERED AND ATTENDED THE SESSIONS REGULARLY. AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND MISSION OFFICERS MADE OCCASIONAL VISITS TO THE MEETING IN THE EXPECTATION THAT REPS OF INDIGENOUS GROUPS FROM THEIR COUNTRIES MIGHT ATTACK THE GOA OR THE GONZ BUT ATTACKS NEVER MATERIALIZED.

7. BECAUSE OF LATE HOUR WEOS DID NOT DISCUSS 33RD UNGA. THIS ITEM WILL BE DISCUSSED AT A MEETING LATER IN SEPTEMBER. THE FOLLOWING WEOS ATTENDED THE LUNCHEON:

AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM, DENMARK, FRG, FRANCE, ITALY, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, NEW ZEALAND, SWITZERLAND, UK AND U.S. VANDEN HEUVEL

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